

LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION FOR CHIPPEWA AND SUPERIOR NATIONAL FORESTS, MINNESOTA, LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION

Randy Moore, Regional Forester, Eastern Region, US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, decided to implement the revised Land and Resource Management Plans for the Chippewa and Superior National Forests based on Modified Alternative E from the plan revision Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Regional Forester signed two Records of Decision on July 30th, 2004, one for the Chippewa and one for the Superior National Forest. The Records of Decision describe Modified Alternative E and discusses the rationale for selecting Modified Alternative E. The revised Plans, previously approved in 1986, establish direction for managing natural resources for the next 10 to 15 years on National Forest System land. National Forest System land will also be managed using direction from relevant law, regulations, and Forest Service Manuals and Handbooks. While no project-level decisions were considered during the revision process, the following was decided: Forest-wide multiple use goals and objectives; Forest-wide management requirements for protecting resources; management area direction; land suited and not suited for timber management; monitoring and evaluating requirements; and recommendations to Congress, such as wilderness designations. The Records of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement, and revised Plans are being sent to people on the Forest Plan revision mailing list. Copies of these documents are available upon request from: Forest Plan Revision Team, Superior National Forest, 8901 Grand Avenue Pl., Duluth, MN, 55808; 218-626-4300. The documents are also available on our webpage <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/chippewa/plan/planning.htm>

APPEALS: This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 217. A written notice of appeal must be submitted to the Chief of the Forest Service within 90 calendar days after the notice of this decision is published in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, the official paper of record for decisions made by the Regional Forester. The appeal period for this decision begins the day following the notice's publication. Appellants are requested to identify whether the Chippewa decision, Superior decision, or both decisions are being appealed. Any notice of appeal must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 217.9. A link to the appeal regulations can be found online at: www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/appeals.htm. Send appeals to the Chief at either of the following postal addresses: via regular mail: USDA Forest Service –



Appeals Group, Attn: EMC Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mailstop Code 1104, Washington, DC 20250-1104; or via express mail: USDA Forest Service – Appeals Group, Attn: EMC Staff, 201 14th Street, SW, 3rd Floor, Central Wing, Washington, DC 20024, ph. 202-205-0895. Increased security requirements can delay regular mail, and the express mail address may provide earlier delivery. Appeals can also be sent electronically to: appeals-chief@fs.fed.us. A copy of the appeal must sent simultaneously to the deciding officer: Regional Forester of the Eastern Region, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region, 626 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

